

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 2179 without my signature.

The Air Resources Board (ARB) is currently developing the low carbon fuel standard (LCFS) as part of its implementation of AB 32, the California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006. The purpose of the LCFS is to set declining carbon content targets for vehicle fuels and let the market determine which fuels to provide Californians for consumption. This bill chooses one type of fuel over another, which is contrary to the market concept underlying the development of the LCFS.

Additionally, the sustainability criteria required by this bill set a precedent for exhaustive but marginally beneficial analyses that are inconsistent with those presently under development by the ARB and would likely delay implementation of the LCFS.

Although I cannot support this measure, I strongly support the concept of our State fleets routinely using alternative and renewable fuels. In 2007, Caltrans initiated a pilot program to determine the feasibility of using biodiesel fuel in its fleet. To date, the results of that program have been favorable and I encourage them to continue expanding it in a cost effective manner.

Sincerely,

Arnold Schwarzenegger